

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Kaupin in the Council Chambers of the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday, February 17, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRAYER** – The Prayer was given by Councilor Deni.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL-CALL** – Present were Councilors Arnone, Bosco, Cekala, Deni, Edgar, Kaupin, Lee, Mangini, Stokes and Szewczak. Councilor Hall entered at 7:40 p.m. Also present were Town Manager, Matthew Coppler; Assistant Town Manager, Derrik Kennedy; Town Clerk, Suzanne Olechnicki; Town Attorney, Kevin Deneen; Director of Public Works, Jonathan Bilmes; Town Engineer, John Cabibbo; Business Operations Manager/Assistant Director of Public Works, Rose Bouchard; Director of Finance, Lynn Nenni; Chief of Police, Carl Sferrazza; Emergency Services Director, Gary Wiemokly; Director of Youth Services Jean Haughey

**FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Chairman Kaupin made the fire evacuation announcement.

**MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**

**MOTION #3023** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Arnone to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2015 Special Meeting.

Referring to the fourth paragraph on Page 7, Councilor Szewczak stated that should read, “The Kate” in Old Saybrook.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3023** adopted 10-0-0, as corrected.

**MOTION #3024** by Councilor Deni, seconded by Councilor Mangini to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3024** adopted 10-0-0.

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

**Enfield Together Coalition**

Present from the Enfield Together Coalition were Chairperson, Joan Lawson, Beverly Harrison and Jean Haughey, the Director of Youth Services.

Ms. Lawson thanked the Council for their support and allowing them to go to the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). She shared information which the group brought back from CADCA, which includes information about marijuana, alcohol and prescription drugs. She referred to a folder before the Council which contains information about the Enfield Together Coalition and highlights upcoming speakers and Town Hall meetings. A short video presentation was shared with the Council concerning the problem of prescription drugs.

Ms. Lawson referred to a book entitled, "Going to Pot" by Dr. Bill Bennett and noted this is about the haste to legalize marijuana in America. She noted the book contains many good statistics. She stated at the CADCA conference they heard from some people from Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Colorado who voted for recreational marijuana and were very regretful. She stated one of the reasons for the regret was because they weren't well informed and well educated about marijuana. She said the coalition is sending out postcards this fall educating parents and the public about the effects of marijuana, especially on young people. She pointed out marijuana has very bad effects the younger that people start using it. She stated this is a golden opportunity to become informed through the coalition and the campaigns they will be running to prevent Enfield from going through what other communities have already gone through. She pointed out tomorrow is the first day that D.C. will be starting recreational marijuana.

Ms. Lawson stated everyone needs to be an agent of change so they can bring hope to this community.

Councilor Arnone commended Enfield Together, Youth Services and the Youth Council for doing a great job. He informed everyone the Police Department has a lock box where people can get rid of prescription drugs. He noted they also fund party patrols with the Police Department.

Chairman Kaupin thanked Enfield Together for this evening's presentation.

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS**

Maureen Mullen, 1625 King Street

Stated the Enfield Together Coalition is a great organization and people should listen to them.

### **COUNCILMEN COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS**

Councilor Deni thanked the Public Works Department for doing a great job with snow plowing.

Councilor Mangini agreed with Councilor Deni noting Public Works is doing a great job removing snow.

Councilor Mangini requested an update concerning the issue of clearing sidewalks and liens being placed on properties.

Councilor Arnone shared an old photograph of Enfield Police Officers from the 1950's. He presented the photograph to Councilor Edgar, a retired police officer.

Councilor Lee questioned how things are going regarding Town resources and the clearing of sidewalks.

**MOTION #3025** by Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Mangini to suspend the rules to address under Miscellaneous this evening Items 14 B1, B2, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3025** adopted 10-0-0.

Councilor Stokes thanked the Enfield Together Coalition for all their work.

Chairman Kaupin stated Governor Malloy visited Phoenix Manufacturing today. He noted there was a quick tour along with a brief press conference on creating jobs in Connecticut.

He stated there will be a special joint meeting between Planning & Zoning and the Enfield Town Council on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Thompsonville zoning.

Chairman Kaupin stated there will be School Security Informational Meetings on February 19<sup>th</sup> at Prudence Crandall; February 23<sup>rd</sup> at JFK Middle School and February 25<sup>th</sup> at Nathan Hale School. All meetings will start at 7:00 p.m.

He noted there will also be a quarterly informational meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Kaupin stated he has a meeting with Senator Kissel and mayors and first selectman of his senatorial district on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. He invited Town Council members to email him anything they'd like him to share at this meeting.

Chairman Kaupin stated the Town may need to come up with a way to manage its parking lots when there are multiple parking bans.

He stated the annual Fourth of July Town Celebration Committee is holding their annual winter dinner dance on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Polish National Home.

## **TOWN MANAGER REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Coppler stated the Town has been informed Enfield has received a funding commitment of \$1,146,000 for the Freshwater Boulevard pavement rehabilitation program. He noted he needs to sign the letter from the State to let them know the Town is interested in this, however, it's not a total commitment at this point. He stated more paperwork will be forthcoming.

Mr. Coppler stated he included in the Council's packet the most recent update to the Town's workers' compensation program. He noted this is a dashboard he put together so Town staff and the Board of Education can keep tabs on where they stand on a monthly basis relating to their expenditure for workers' compensation. He referred to the right-hand side of the documentation regarding year-to-date loss versus collateralization. He explained collateralization is the amount of money that has to be put aside for potential cases or claims in the upcoming years, and this is \$1.4 million dollars. He stated as of the end of January 31, 2015, a little over \$190,000 has been committed. He noted at this point, they're doing a very good job in terms of the severity of the claims and the number of claims.

Chairman Kaupin requested this information be shared with the School Board, and Mr. Coppler noted he sent this to Chris Drezek at the School Board last week.

Mr. Coppler stated he will provide this information on a monthly basis.

Present from the Public Works Department were Jonathan Bilmes, John Cabibbo and Rose Bouchard.

Mr. Cabibbo stated the State of Connecticut is proposing the installation of center line rumble strips. He noted the Town is concerned about the effect this will have on the lifetime of the pavement. He noted staff has discussed this and would prefer to see its use on state roads before implementing the rumble strips on Town roads. He stated a possible road in Enfield that might benefit from rumble strips would be Broad Brook Road.

Councilor Arnone stated his belief this is a small amount of money to prevent accidents.

Councilor Lee stated there's a bill before the legislature which is looking to mandate these strips on state highways. He agreed Broad Brook Road is probably the best road to target for rumble strips.

Chairman Kaupin questioned whether this will be noisy to nearby neighbors. Mr. Cabibbo indicated he could provide more information concerning this.

Mr. Bilmes stated more information can be provided about the use of rumble strips. He added there's a deadline to get back to DOT by the end of the month.

Councilor Bosco agreed Broad Brook Road would be a good place to try this.

Mr. Bilmes then brought up the topic of drainage issues in the area of Stephen Drive and Edmund Lane.

Mr. Cabibbo stated in 2007, there was a proposed drainage referendum and this was one of the listed projects. He noted in 2010, the PCI for Stephen Drive was 65, Edmund Lane was 75 and Cheryl Drive was 64. He explained this is one of those situations where these roads didn't make it into the program because the pavement was fine, but rather it was a drainage problem. He noted once the pavement got to the point where it was appropriate for an overlay, it wasn't done because of the drainage problems.

Councilor Deni questioned what can be done to address this problem. Mr. Coppler pointed out the Town cannot use referendum money on this. He noted the Council has put money aside for roads outside the referendum.

Councilor Deni requested an estimate as to how much it would cost to address this area.

Mr. Cabibbo stated the cost would be about \$575,000 to reconstruct Stephen Drive, Cheryl Drive and Edmund Lane and address the drainage issues.

Mr. Coppler stated historically, the Town is committed to putting about \$500,000 towards the roads program. He noted there have been times when additional money has been set aside for non-referendum roads.

Mr. Bilmes stated he is proud of Public Works employees for all their hard work and long hours removing snow. He noted they haven't enough personnel to address all the sidewalk issues. He noted at some point, there will be a list of those property owners that have been cited regarding snow removal and sidewalks. He stated they need to come up with a plan regarding downtown parking lots, and they have to pay attention to certain areas, i.e., clearing bus stops for the Magic Carpet service.

Chairman Kaupin stated people are getting conflicting information concerning parking bans.

Mr. Bilmes stated they can look at limited parking bans, and they will have to work more closely with the Police Department regarding parking bans.

As concerns snow removal costs, Mr. Bilmes stated he will be coming before the Council in two weeks with an official budget transfer. He noted the biggest item that they're over budget is \$90,000 for contractors. He stated year-to-date they basically spent \$200,000. He noted they made an estimate of possible additional contractor needs, and the total overage is estimated at \$200,000. He noted that overage could possibly be less, but that depends on how many days they need to be moving snow from business districts or key residential areas or how many storms happen where they need to call in contractors to supplement the Town.

Mr. Bilmes stated they will also be coming before the Council in a couple weeks regarding the untreated salt transfer request, which amounts to \$140,000 for additional salt.

Mr. Bilmes stated the snow budget for Highway overtime is \$150,000, and they are at \$229,000 at this time, therefore, they're about \$79,000 over budget. He pointed out a lot of the storms have been on weekends. He stated they are preparing an official budget request for the next meeting.

Councilor Deni commended the Public Works Department for the job they're doing with snow removal. He noted he did a ride along in the snowplowing operation, and he encouraged others to take advantage of this opportunity as well.

Councilor Edgar commended Public Works for doing an excellent job. He noted he hasn't received any complaints.

Councilor Stokes commended Public Works for doing an excellent job.

Chairman Kaupin stated for the first meeting in March, the Council can expect to see a transfer of \$340,000 for Public Works.

As concerns citations, Mr. Coppler stated the hearing officer has the capability of waiving the fine, but not the fee for cleaning the walkway. He noted in order to waive the fee for cleaning, they'd have to come back with a resolution to make that possible. He stated they should have such a resolution within the next month or so.

Councilor Mangini expressed concerns about liens being place against properties. She noted she would like this expedited as soon as possible.

Mr. Coppler stated the Council received some contracts in their February 2<sup>nd</sup> packet, and these are related to East River Energy. He explained these are contracts that the Town entered into relating to gasoline and diesel fuel. He noted although the Town's contract with East River Energy wasn't up yet, they felt this was an opportunity to lock in for at least another year at a lot lower cost before the prices start going up.

Councilor Hall questioned whether they can also lock in on oil prices. Mr. Coppler stated they were able to lower the oil cost down to \$3.02 per gallon.

### **TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS**

Attorney Deneen referred to the Secure Care Rocky Hill case, and noted another case came down from the appellate court that again reiterated some of the contracting laws applied to Connecticut municipalities, but also for the first time held that there's no such thing as apparent authority when people deal with a town.

## **REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

### **Enfield High School Renovation Building Committee**

Councilor Szewczak stated things are moving along. She noted the oil tank was a little problematic, and they lost three and a half weeks of time. She went on to state the Building Committee is working on the furniture and finishes, and they've allocated enough funds for all the IT and specialty equipment they need.

Councilor Cekala stated when they had their meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>, they were at 199 safe work days, and this is excellent. She noted the inside work near the boiler room and cafeteria is moving along.

Chairman Kaupin stated the Building Committee will provide an update at one of the March meetings.

Councilor Mangini stated KITE had a meeting recently which focused on childhood education. She noted they do a great job and are looking for support.

Councilor Lee stated Development Services did meet, and they've begun to pick up some of the blight topics. He noted they're also looking at what the City of Hartford has written into their code to see if that might be useful to them in terms of looking at an abandoned structure as a blighted structure.

Councilor Lee stated the IT Committee met about a month ago, and he received a report on equipment summaries in the different user populations in the Town of Enfield and Enfield Public Schools. He stated this group is waiting for a set of dates for an early March meeting with their Board counterparts.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **APPOINTMENTS (TOWN COUNCIL)**

**MOTION #3026** by Councilor Bosco, seconded by Councilor Stokes to remove from the table Item #9.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3026** adopted 7-4-0, with Councilors Arnone, Cekala, Deni and Edgar voting against.

**NOMINATION #3027** by Councilor Stokes to appoint Bob Gillespie (R) to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate member for a term which expires 12/31/2015.

**MOTION #3028** by Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Stokes to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3028** adopted 7-4-0, with Councilors Arnone, Cekala, Deni and Edgar voting against.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Bob Gillespie appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate by a 6-5-0 vote, with Councilors Arnone, Cekala, Deni, Edgar and Mangini voting against.

**MOTION #3029** by Councilor Lee, seconded by Councilor Stokes to remove Item #14 from the table.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3029** adopted 11-0-0.

**NOMINATION #3030** by Councilor Lee to appoint Michael Ludwick (R) to the Planning and Zoning Commission as an Alternate member for a term which expires 12/31/2015.

**MOTION #3031** by Councilor Stokes, seconded by Councilor Hall to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3031** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Michael Ludwick appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission as an Alternate by an 11-0-0 vote.

All other Town Council appointments remained tabled.

#### **APPOINTMENTS (TOWN MANAGER)**

All Town Manager appointments remained tabled.

Items C & D remained tabled.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **APPOINTMENTS (TOWN COUNCIL)**

Appointments to the Inland Wetlands Watercourse Agency and Ethics Commission will appear on the next regular meeting agenda.

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **DISCUSSION RE: HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY**

Mr. Coppler stated a Council member requested bringing forward the possibility of reviewing the Human Services Advisory Commission. He noted he provided some history in the Council's packet concerning this.



He stated in the late 1990's the Council created the Human Services Commission and renewed it two additional times. He stated there's some thought about reviewing the terms, appointment process, mission and charge of this commission.

Councilor Lee suggested Pam Brown can provide an indication as to whether the application process has changed at all and are they asking anything different of these agencies.

Mr. Coppler stated one possibility is to assign it to the Social Services Subcommittee to come back with recommendations on how to re-form this committee if that committee is to be reformed at all.

Councilor Mangini stated the purpose of this committee is to look at the volume of human service groups that come forward with requests for the Council at budget time. She noted she would not want to see the whole wheel re-created.

Councilor Hall stated over the years funding has been cut quite a bit. She noted she'd be more comfortable turning this over to Pam Brown because she's the department head and has a better sense of what the people she serves really need.

Councilor Arnone stated he doesn't have a problem with Councilor Hall's suggestion.

Chairman Kaupin requested Councilors Hall, Mangini and Stokes meet between now and the first meeting in March to further discuss this.

Councilor Stokes stated he would also like to consult with Pam Brown about this.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**NOMINATION #3032** by Councilor Arnone to reappoint Timothy Slade (R) to the Commission on Aging as an Alternate for a term which expires 12/31/2017.

**MOTION #3033** by Councilor Hall, seconded by Councilor Szewczak to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3033** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Timothy Slade reappointed to the Commission on Aging as an Alternate by an 11-0-0 vote.

**NOMINATION #3034** by Councilor Lee to reappoint Howard Florian (U) to the Commission on Aging as a Regular Member for a term which expires 12/31/2016.

**MOTION #3035** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hall to close nominations.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3035** adopted 11-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared Howard Florian reappointed to the Commission on Aging as a Regular Member by an 11-0-0 vote.

**RESOLUTION #3036** by Councilor Szewczak, seconded by Councilor Hall.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO:	1300 Town Attorney Legal	10130000-533200	\$21,000
FROM:	Contingency	10800092-584000	\$21,000

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 4, 2015.

/s/ A. Lynn Nenni, Director of Finance

Attorney Deneen explained there are a number of issues relating to certain police officers that led to actions and civil lawsuits. He noted this is a transfer to cover the costs that were incurred for Shipman & Goodwin.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3036** adopted 11-0-0.

**RESOLUTION #3037** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Stokes.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO:	Police Services Overtime	10200500-514000	\$208,000
FROM:	Police Services Life Insurance	10200500-521500	\$ 47,900
FROM:	General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance	1004000-499000	\$160,100

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 3, 2015.

/s/ A. Lynn Nenni, Director of Finance

Councilor Arnone requested a rundown on the computer-aided dispatch system.

Mr. Coppler stated a few years ago, \$200,000 was set aside to update and upgrade the computer-aided dispatch. He noted prior to this upgrade, the computer-aided dispatch didn't really exist. He stated once the Council appropriated \$200,000, police staff, communication staff and fire departments began looking at different options for upgrading. He noted they ultimately decided to go with KTI, which is a company that's been contracted through the CRCOG grant. He explained a computer-aided dispatch allows the dispatchers to know exactly where the units are at any given time and enables them to send the closest unit to where they're needed. He stated the other part of this is the record management system. He pointed out the current record management system dates back to the 1980's. He noted Enfield is part of a consortium, which reduces the overall cost and it also allows for easier sharing of information across the jurisdiction.

Councilor Arnone questioned whether this is hooked into the prison system, and Chief Sferrazza stated it doesn't go through Corrections, but rather it goes through the State Collect system, and they have access to prison records.

Councilor Cekala requested more information about overtime costs. Mr. Coppler stated overall for the past three years, they've averaged \$12,900 per week for overtime.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3037** adopted 11-0-0.

**RESOLUTION #3038** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Stokes.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO:	Thompsonville Revitalization		
	Overtime	10606155-514000	\$110,000.00
FROM:	General Fund		
	Appropriated Fund Balance	1004000-499000	\$110,000.00

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 3, 2015.

/s/ A. Lynn Nenni, Director of Finance

Councilor Mangini requested an overview.

Chief Sferrazza stated last year in July or August, there was an issue at the Lamagna Center where staff indicated there were concerns about some narcotic activity going on in that building. He noted they put a walking officer on duty from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and

that was covered by overtime, which amounted to about \$15,000. He noted they then came to the Council to discuss the program, and the Council appropriated \$50,000. He stated for the rest of that summer, they insured that every day they had walking patrols in that area. He noted residents and business people really liked seeing the police in that area on a consistent basis. He noted that due to the cold weather and snow, they did not believe it made sense to have police walking. He stated they've scaled way back. He stated in the spring, people will be out and about, and they want people to see and feel Thompsonville is a safe place. He noted if these monies are appropriated this evening, they will start it right away. He stated through February and March they would add an extra eight hours of patrol exclusively in the Thompsonville area. He noted when April, May and June arrive and it's lighter outside, they'd like to increase that to 16 hours a day, seven days a week.

Councilor Mangini questioned the plan after June. Chief Sferrazza stated they have a request through the budget process for four additional officers. He noted they want to create a SET team, which is a strategic enforcement team. He stated a few years ago, the Council brought them up to 99 sworn officers. He explained originally they had four people assigned to community policing – two on days and two on nights, but around 2010, 2011 and 2012 they started having staffing issues. He pointed out at one time, they had three officers on maternity leave, two officers serving in the military overseas, five officers on long-term leave, along with five to six vacancies. He noted they were having difficulty filling the vacancies. He stated at that time they were endangering their 911 response, which cannot happen, therefore, they had to re-distribute the officers from community policing into patrol until they got over the hump with staffing. He noted as of today, they've done a very good job with getting their numbers back up. He stated they're bringing in a lot of certified officers. He noted although he has 97 officers on paper, that doesn't mean he has them all available to take calls. He stated four officers are still in the field training program, and they have to pass that to become permanent. He noted he has two vacancies, and one officer was sent to ECN. He stated last year, to respond to the narcotic situation in Enfield, they took two patrol officers and reinstated a program that had been in place 30 years ago, which is called the detective trainee. He noted they did this last year with two officers, and those two officers were very instrumental in the success they had last November when they issued 27 warrants. He stated they want to continue that this year. He pointed out he also had an unfunded state mandate that had to be met, and that is the court and evidence officer position. He noted Enfield provides 50 to 60 percent of all the work at GA13. He stated the plan for July 1<sup>st</sup> would be to use four officers, an existing detective and an existing sergeant. He noted they would have a visibility function, and they'd have the ability to be deployed when they're having a rash of robberies, narcotics or car break-ins.

Councilor Deni requested clarification about the bike patrol. Chief Sferrazza stated instead of having officers just walk, at times they are put on bikes.

Councilor Arnone stated the Council has funded Thompsonville policing since 1994. He noted in 1994, they funded four officers and at one point they took one officer, but that was hurriedly brought back due to public outcry. He noted crime rate has steadily gone

down from 1994. He stated they had four more officers in 2010. He acknowledged they've had a lot of officers out. He noted he'd rather keep funding this on overtime until they get back up to 99 strong and put their four officers back downtown. Chief Sferrazza noted that could be done, but if they use officers that are in patrol, they're no longer at 99 officers.

Councilor Arnone stated in the past, the Council stepped up and allowed the Police Department to have a sergeant downtown, therefore, they had five officers downtown, and they did a narcotic squad along with the walking squad. He stated that disappeared, and now they brought it back again. He noted it seems every time crime goes up in Thompsonville, they get the uniformed officers back downtown again. He stated he's very disappointed that they have to keep losing it and gaining it.

Chief Sferrazza stated a SET team will serve a dual purpose. He noted they will be visible and walking around, but they won't be exclusive to that because there may be days when they're in plain clothes to make drug arrests.

Councilor Arnone stated the crime rate in Thompsonville has always been effected by just having the police on the street, and the crime rate has steadily fallen from 1994 until today. Chief Sferrazza agreed the violent crime rate has dropped, but narcotic use has not, and that's what they want to address.

Councilor Edgar stated they need a presence of police in the Thompsonville area, and he can't see a reason why they can't bring back the four officers right now. He noted it seems the Council is being asked for a lot of money. He pointed out over the last five to ten years, the Chief has received what was requested, but he believes the well gets dry after a while.

Chief Sferrazza stated this year he has taken patrol officers out of patrol and relocated them because he has to fill holes. He noted he's proposing a strategy that won't just give the appearance that officers are walking in Thompsonville, but they're actually making investigations and arrests.

Councilor Cekala stated this is a lot of money to put towards just Thompsonville. She noted historically, the Council gives the Police Department money and they have police officers downtown for awhile and then they're continually taken out. She questioned when the \$110,000 would be put to use, and Chief Sferrazza responded probably Monday. She stated if the Council votes, "no", does that mean they won't have officers downtown. Chief Sferrazza responded that's not the case, but it wouldn't be the coverage they're looking for. He explained he has seven districts in Enfield, and it's divided up by activity. He noted Thompsonville is the smallest district, but it's the highest density district with the highest call for service. He stated there's one officer assigned to that one area all the time, and they have an additional officer that overlaps the Thompsonville area. He stated if they have a spare, they'll send that officer as well. He stated if that officer takes a call or makes a domestic arrest, he's off the street for three hours which leaves no coverage. He stated his understanding this is not what the Council is directing

the Police Department to do. He understands the Council wants a predictable and consistent presence in Thompsonville, and with the existing staff he cannot deliver that.

Councilor Cekala stated her belief the Police Department will get this funding, but the Council also has to be accountable. She stated people will expect to see more police presence in Thompsonville if the Council is providing extra money.

Councilor Deni stated he rode with a police officer from 6:00 p.m. to midnight, and they spent three hours in the police station with a District 6 officer doing domestic calls and taking depositions and driving from one end of the town to the other to serve these people warnings. He noted three hours were taken out of patrolling because work had to be done at the police station.

Councilor Hall stated her belief it's not in the Council's purview as to where the Chief of Police places his staff. She noted the Council is here to allocate funds and make sure that the Council's goals are met. She stated her belief the Chief has a great understanding of the Council's goal.

Chief Sferrazza stated he and his staff spend a lot of time talking about the best direction to go while trying to meet the Council's expectations.

Chairman Kaupin voiced his support of the resolution. He noted he's getting aggravated that lay people are telling the Chief and his men what to do in Thompsonville. He stated 1996 is not 2015 because times have changed and there are a lot different challenges and the Town has to think out of the box to address things in a different way. He noted in Enfield there's the constant battle about why all the money is spent in Thompsonville. He stated his belief Enfield is Enfield, and he feels that's the intriguing part about the SET team because that team would be put together to focus on where the greatest need is at that particular time. He went on to note there's a big problem with arson in Hazardville, and he'd rather have four officers working on arson in Hazardville than walking downtown on a set schedule. He stated the beauty of this resolution is that it's not consistent and predictable to the criminal on the street because it's varied and it addresses the issue of surprise so that they don't necessarily see an officer. He noted he wants to see an undercover officer in Thompsonville making drug buys and solving crimes. He stated this Council has to get off of what was done in 1996 or other years and think about what needs to be done in 2015. He commended the Police Department for putting together a program that attempts to address that. He stated they need to provide the funds and latitude to see if it works. He noted until they resolve the issues in Thompsonville, no one will invest money in the downtown area.

Councilor Arnone responded by stating Chairman Kaupin's attack back to crush the opposition is wrong. He noted he should be able to come back with historical knowledge on what has been done in the past and ask simple questions without being beat up by the other side. He questioned why he should be belittled. He noted he asked a simple question as to where the four officers went. He pointed out the Council is not doing its due diligence if they stop asking questions. He stated it's wrong to rubber-stamp things.

Chairman Kaupin stated Councilor Arnone shouldn't go back to 1996, and he shouldn't tell the Chief of Police how to run the Police Department.

Councilor Arnone stated he did not tell the Chief how to run the Police Department, but rather he asked where the officers were.

Chief Sferrazza referred to crime rates and noted as of a couple years ago, the State of Connecticut is defining 16 and 17 year olds as juveniles, therefore, that age range is taken out of the mix. He stated as a result some statistics are lower than others. Councilor Arnone stated he would like to see those statistics.

Councilor Cekala stated no one was trying to tell the Chief of Police how to do his job. She noted he is a good Chief and has good Captains. She noted the Council absolutely has to do its job, and they have to do their research and have accountability. She finds it ironic that the other party thinks they don't micromanage considering the Town Manager's office was given a hard time for spending \$6,000 on a study in Thompsonville. She pointed out all that's being asked of the Chief of Police is what will be done with this \$110,000. She added when the Board of Education asks for \$1.2 million dollars to fund their contractual obligations, they get turned down. She pointed out it's the job of the Council to ask questions.

Chairman Kaupin stated Councilor Cekala has to have the skin to realize that she's an elected official and when he doesn't agree, he will state his mind. Councilor Cekala responded she doesn't mind being disagreed with, but she feels his tact is not appropriate. Chairman Kaupin stated his belief the residents appreciate his tact.

Councilor Hall stated her belief she and Chairman Kaupin were extremely respectful, but she feels Councilors Arnone and Cekala have very thin skin sometimes and when they're disagreed with and there's a debate on the floor, they take it very personal. She stated her belief that neither Chairman Kaupin nor her comments were personal, but rather they were directed to the Chief. She added she would not pretend to know where to put people in Thompsonville or what's best for the Police Department. She stated her job is to fund and set goals. She noted she resents being accused of micromanaging \$6,000, which had nothing to do with the money, but rather it had to do with something being done on a building that the Council hadn't approved.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3038** adopted 11-0-0.

**RESOLUTION #3039** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Stokes.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO: Planning Dept.  
Other Professional Services 10606100-533000 \$20,000

FROM: Planning Dept.  
Salaries 10606100-511000 \$20,000

**CERTIFICATION:** I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 4, 2015.

/s/ A. Lynn Nenni, Director of Finance

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3039** adopted 10-0-0. Councilor Bosco absent at the vote.

**RESOLUTION #3040** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hall.

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield, acting through its Emergency Services Division, will provide Paramedic Intercept Services on an occasional basis to the residents and visitors of the Towns of East Windsor, Somers and Suffield; and

WHEREAS, Medicare and Medicare HMO guidelines set forth certain billing requirements; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with these requirements, the Town of Enfield will enter into “bundle billing” agreements with the following entities:

The Town of Somers  
The Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc; and  
The East Windsor Ambulance Association, Inc.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Matthew W. Coppler is authorized to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of Enfield with the Town of Somers, the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association, Inc., and the East Windsor Ambulance Association, Inc. for ambulance related services.

Councilor Mangini questioned if this will save time and money by coordinating this. Director of EMS Gary Wiemokly stated at this time, they’re unable to bill for services they provide to other communities. He noted this will help Enfield recapture some funds.

Councilor Deni questioned how this works. Mr. Wiemokly explained right now Enfield provides a little more than 200 paramedic intercepts. He noted Enfield isn’t doing the transportation of those patients. He stated the only way Enfield is allowed to bill is if Enfield provides the transportation. He noted the bundled billing arrangement is legal, and it’s a way that Enfield can recapture some of those costs where one of the communities has a basic life support ambulance, but the patient’s status is critical enough that they need paramedic intervention, i.e., the medications and monitoring, therefore, Enfield provides that. He noted in doing so, when the community provides the transportation, they’re able to bill on Enfield’s behalf for the advanced life support, and



when they recoup the cost, they extend to Enfield the difference between the basic life support and the advance life support.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3040** adopted 9-0-0, with Councilors Bosco and Stokes absent at the vote.

**RESOLUTION #3041** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hall.

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Matthew W. Coppler, is authorized to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of Enfield with the State of Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education for Asnuntuck Community College to provide fixed route bus services to enrolled students.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3041** adopted 10-0-0, with Councilor Stokes absent at the vote.

**RESOLUTION #3042** by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hall.

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield (Town) operates an emergency medical service that transports patients to area hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the Town bills those patients it transports for these services to pay in part the cost of providing the total services of Enfield Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, the Town provides funding from the Town's General Fund to pay in part the cost of providing the total services of Enfield Emergency Medical Services, with the Fiscal Year 2015 contribution being \$830,738; and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Town Council (Council) desires to waive the co-pay of bona fide residents of the Town of Enfield who are recipients of Medicare for services rendered through the Enfield Emergency Medical Services Division; and

WHEREAS, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Carrier Manual Section 2309.4 provides: a (State or local government) facility which reduces or waives its charges for patients unable to pay, or charges patients only to the extent of their Medicare and other health insurance coverage, is not viewed as furnishing free services and may therefore receive program payment; and

WHEREAS, CMS has confirmed that this provision would apply to a State or municipal ambulance company that is a Medicare Part B supplier:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does authorize waiver of the co-pay limited to bona fide residents of the Town of Enfield who are recipients of Medicare for services rendered through the Enfield Emergency Medical Services Division.

Mr. Coppler stated when the Town of Enfield began this service, the Town Council wanted to provide for those Enfield residents who are Medicare recipients by waiving the co-pay that would be left after Medicare pays for the main part of the transport. He noted this has never been done formally.

Councilor Szewczak questioned if this means that people who have co-insurance, their co-insurance won't be billed as well. Mr. Wiemokly stated their insurance would be billed, but if there's a co-pay that remains the Council would waive that co-pay.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #3042** adopted 11-0-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Liz Davis, 201 North Maple Street

Stated if one police officer isn't safe in Thompsonville, how can one school security officer be safe. She noted it's easy to identify a school security officer and what hours they are on duty.

Ms. Davis referred to the \$1.5 million dollars for school security officers, which was not pre-budgeted the last two years. She questioned what was taken away to afford this.

She commended the Council for doing a good job and suggested they all remain friends.

### **COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Cekala stated the First Readers Trivia Night is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel. She noted it's \$20.00 for tickets.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #3043** by Councilor Stokes, seconded by Councilor Deni to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #3043** adopted 11-0-0, and the meeting stood adjourned at 10:03 p.m.